

Vision

Pensacola District United Women in Faith

Summer 2022

2022 Calendar

Pensacola District United Women in Faith

Please hold these dates. Watch for emails/flyers with details and changes.

September 24—Spiritual Day Apart, Bellview UMC, Pensacola, FL

October 22—Mission Study, “Finding Peace in an Anxious World,” Debbie Bracewell, Instructor. Location TBA

Team Meetings—Aug 19, Sep 16, Oct 14 and Dec 2.

Alabama-West Florida Conference United Women in Faith

July 22-23—Mission u, Aldersgate UMC, Montgomery, AL

October 7-8—AWF-UMW Conference Spiritual Enrichment Retreat (SER) and 2023 EX. Mission Team election & installation, Blue Lake Assembly

2022 District UMW Officers

President — Judi Dickens

Vice President — Joan Simmons

Treasurer — Margaret Larson

Secretary — Connie Vance

Spiritual Growth — Pat Clark

Social Action — Gladys Scott

Membership Nurture & Outreach —

Peggy Patrick and Donna Ward-Welch

Open positions: Education and Interpretation/Reading Program and Communications Coordinator

God calls us to expand our vision.



United
Women
in Faith

President's Message

Summer is here!

Most of you have taken the summer off from meeting together but I hope you are looking forward to fall and all the upcoming activities.

One summer activity is Mission u and you still have time to register. The new format is one day and one class, “Who Can We Be Together,” a study of Luke 13. I hope you are able to participate. <https://www.awf-umw.org> has registration links.

Coming this fall:

Your Pensacola District team is working on a very special Spiritual Day Apart which will be on September 24 at Bellview UMC in Pensacola. We hope to see many of you there to share the day.

The Alabama-West Florida Conference United Women in Faith will hold the Spiritual Enrichment Retreat at Blue Lake, October 7-8, 2022. Watch for the opportunity to register.

On October 22, we will have a Mission Study, “Finding Peace in an Anxious World.” Debbie Bracewell, our Conference President will be the instructor. Please contact me if you would like to host this event.

We have been asked to consider holding new officer training before the end of the year. Most units know who will be in leadership in the new year so training in November instead of January will help all officers as they begin 2023. I would love feedback from each of you on this idea.

Thank you to everyone who attended our gathering in May, we had 41 people from 7 units who came together to hear and participate in the lesson presented by Kathleen Logan, author of *Women's Wisdom, Pass It On*. Another “thank you” to Gulf Breeze United Women in Faith who graciously hosted the morning's event.

As I am writing this note I am preparing to head to The Annual Conference in Montgomery, Alabama, a new experience for me but it is part of the duties of the District President. I will do my best to represent our District well. I hope to have information to share with you when I return.

Thank you again for your support. Many of you have been more than kind as I try to fill the position as District President. I have been blessed with a lot of support and a great team that helps me plan and execute all that I need to do.

Have a beautiful summer, be safe and happy.

Blessings, *Judi Dickens*

First United Methodist Church, Pensacola United Women in Faith—Lunch Bunch News

"Following a review of James E. Atwood's book, AMERICA AND IT GUNS, A Theological Expose," the UMW Lunch Bunch Group held two meetings on "Gun Violence in our Community." Feeling there were many people who would be interested in the topic as well as the speakers, the group decided to open the meeting to other interested persons.

On April 26, Escambia County Sheriff Chip Simmons gave us much to think about. In addition to gun violence in our community, he also explained his duties, as well as those of his employees, which was most enlightening. It was heartening to know that he has initiated a mentoring program for young "men" which is proactive in working with the group promoting positive self-images, etc. It was named the State of Florida "Program of the Year" in 2021. Congratulations Chip Simmons & the Escambia County Sheriff's Department!

On May 24, Chief of Police for the City of Pensacola, Eric Randall, was our special guest. He was very explicit in telling us about gun violence + many other duties of the Pensacola Police Department. We learned that one BAD act of gun violence can cost our community up to \$1,000,000.00 – this includes



Jennifer Piver & Peggy Groves present a Prayer Shawl to Chief Randall following his presentation.

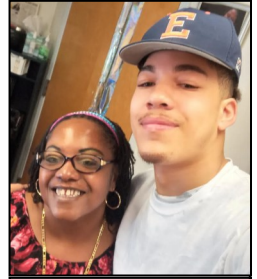
personnel cost, court cost, victims cost, cost to the perpetrator, etc. We enjoyed learning much more about the workings of the Police Department & Chief Randall, a native of Pensacola & graduate of Washington High School. Following his service in the U.S. Navy working security, he had an illustrious career in law enforcement work prior to

applying for the position as the Chief of the Pensacola Police Department. Chief Randall left us with a statement that has been resonating with me following the Uvalde, Texas killings. "You hear something -- you say something."

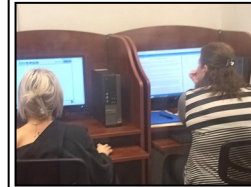
We are indeed blessed to have these two committed men in charge of law enforcement in our community. Let us remember them in our prayers.

Nettie Joseph, Chairman Lunch Bunch Group

Social Action—"Sisters of Hope" wants to congratulate Jordan Peacock for taking his GED test and passing it, now he is on his way to either the military or college. We have two new students testing to get into tutoring during Monday night classes.



Gladys Scott with Jordan Peacock



Gladys Scott, co-founder of "Sisters of Hope," is our District

Social Action Coordinator and a member of the Esther Circle, United Women in Faith at Community Life Church in Gulf Breeze Florida.

A Note from our Treasurer



The United Methodist Church is in a time of upheaval but as United

Women in Faith we will still come together to support women and children in need across America and the world.

Please send any money you can from your units each quarter and not wait until the end of the year. In this time of rising prices for basic necessities the need is even greater. If your unit is struggling or you just need some help please call or text me, 850-217-6960.

Margaret Larson



Co-President Sandra Brubaker and Past President Vikki Snider of Gulf Breeze UWFaith attended Assembly in Orlando.

UWFaith Reading Program Note from Judi Dickens

I know many may have seen this before but it is worth sharing again. This is the first two pages of the Reading Program catalog and I had not seen all this information before, I am guessing I am not alone.

Updated February 2021

Answers to Your Questions about the Reading Program 2021-2022

Reading Program participants have contacted us asking for some clarifications about how a two-year Reading Program plan will work. Since many of you have raised the same questions and concerns, we've decided to share our answers with the entire membership at once in the following update letter from Operations Officer Andris Salter.

Dear Members,

This is an unusual year, as we find ourselves living through a pandemic of a virus that has impacted millions of people; many have lost jobs, family members, friends, homes. We are working remotely, worshiping online; we've postponed or canceled many events. Annual Meetings and Conferences are virtual. General and Jurisdictional Conferences have been delayed.

United Methodist Women has developed new ways to continue the work remotely while COVID-19 keeps all of us social-distanced and so many quarantined. Delayed elections meant naming committees were delayed, including the Assembly, Editorial and Reading Program Committees. With the National Office closed, potential Reading Program books could not be sent to evaluators in the usual manner. We determined that enlarging the 2021 list and combining the 2021 and 2022 Reading Lists would be a better way to handle the situation for now.

The 2020 Reading Program Committee selected new offerings to encourage more reading during these challenging times. We realize this is a lot of change, but changes are needed to continue the work remotely.

During the COVID-19 outbreak, more persons have participated in the Reading Program, many books have been recommended, and we are determining ways to involve evaluators differently. Publishers have also suggested books and ways to help send books to evaluators.

Many of you have asked how a two-year Reading Program plan will work. This is new for us as well so I would like to offer the following recommendations. But I also encourage you to be creative in your work: Think of new ways to enjoy the books, such as Zoom book clubs or by sharing book reports. Invite book authors to join you for discussions time, programs, etc.

A. Reading Book List: The reading forms should be sent to your Conference or District Secretary of Program Resources, in alignment with their schedule.

B. Participation: Anyone can participate in the Reading Program and all can receive a certificate for participating. See unitedmethodistwomen.org/download-resources/reading-program-2021-reporting-form. *2022 new link—see note below.

C. Recognitions: Be creative in recognizing persons who are not UMW/UM.

*2022-NOTE: New website address

<https://uwfaith.org/resources/2022-reading-program/>

D. Another list of books will be shared by April 2021 to serve as an addition to the books featured here in the 2021–2022 catalog.

1. Award certificates as you would yearly recognitions. Or you can add another award for books read in 2021 and 2022.
2. Mix it up by recognizing books in 2021 and the Faith Talks podcasts, movies and books in 2022. Think of other creative ways to promote the Reading Program—and share what works by posting about it on your personal social media accounts and tagging UMW's.
3. For 2021–2022, participants can read books from the 2015 through the 2022 reading lists

E. Faith Talks: Faith Talk podcasts can now be counted in the category of Spiritual Growth. You must participate or listen to two Faith Talks podcasts. If you participate/listen to three, it will be counted as a Bonus Book in the Spiritual Growth category.

F. Movies: Watching these movies and documentaries will also count toward the Reading Program:

1. *Just Mercy*
2. *The Hate U Give*
3. *Pushout*

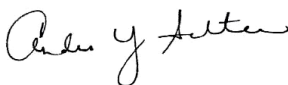
G. Children and youth books can be found within each of the categories.

H. Bonus books: These count as two books in different categories.

I. The Mission studies also count as Bonus Books.

We hope this information answers your most pressing questions about the Reading Program in this unique time. Most of the information provided here can also be found on the Reading Program website, but this update addresses some additional concerns that have been called to our attention.

God Bless.



Andris Salter
Operations Officer
United Methodist Women



The Reading Program is rewarding.

2022-NOTE: New website address

<https://uwfaith.org/resources/2022-reading-program/>